

Sectional Analysis House Bill 31

February 8, 2023

"An Act relating to the Alaska performance scholarship program."

Section 1: Amends AS 14.43.820(a)(2), allowing that a student may qualify for the Alaska Performance Scholarship 12 months prior to graduation from an Alaska state high school.

Amends AS 14.43.820(a), Alaska Performance Scholarship eligibility requirement to allow career and technical education coursework in three different pathways:

- AS 14.43.820 (a)(3)(A): Replace one year of social studies with one year of CTE coursework (within Math & Science Track)
- AS 14.43.820 (a)(3)(B)(ii): Replace two years of world language with two years of CTE coursework, one year of which is sequentially more rigorous, within a career cluster.
- AS 14.43.820 (a)(3)(C): Replace one year of social studies with one year of CTE coursework (within Social Studies & Language Track)

Deletes AS 14.43.820 (a)(5), removing the college entrance exam requirement from the Alaska Performance Scholarship.

Section 2: Amends AS 14.43.820(g), defining "career cluster" as a group of jobs and industries that are related by skills or products and renumbering the subsection accordingly.

Section 3: Adds new subsections (h)(i) to AS 14.43.820, requiring students to be notified of their progress towards receiving the APS scholarship during their junior year, and notifying them of an award in the fall of their senior year.

Adds new subsections (j)(k) to AS 14.43.820, establishing that an applicant must be signed up for any remaining course requirements and must have a qualifying GPA. The award would be revoked if an applicant fails to complete the requirements. The applicant's GPA upon graduation will be used to conclude the final award amount.

Section 4: Amends AS 14.43.25(a) by increasing the awards and removing entrance exam requirements.

- Level one: \$7,000 (was previously \$4,755)
- Level two: \$5,250 (was previously \$3,566)
- Level three: \$3,500 (was previously \$2,378)

Section 5: Amends AS 14.43.25(b) by increasing the number of years a student can use the scholarship after graduating high school from six to eight years.